

## GROWTH OF ST. LOUIS

Changes Made In City's Century of Existence.

### CELEBRATING ITS CENTENNIAL

Missouri Metropolis, Once Little Settlement and Now Country's Fourth City, Rejoices In Its Advancement. Some Ancient Customs.

St. Louisans are rejoicing at present over the completion of the first century of their city's incorporated existence. Naturally the thing that gives them the greatest joy is the comparison of the growth of the Missouri metropolis from a little settlement to the splendid position of fourth among American cities. St. Louis now ranks after New York, Chicago and Philadelphia.

St. Louis has always been noted for its civic pride. But as in 1809 St. Louis had less than 200 houses it is not easy to understand now how its leading citizens could meet on the corners of its only two thoroughfares and discuss it then as one of the most important towns in the country. This some of them certainly did. They left the record of their prophecies to be read now, when in the last ten years about half a million more people have come into the United States across the Atlantic than the total number of "the American people" in the year after St. Louis was first incorporated.

Had Good Opinions of Themselves. With not quite 7,250,000 people in the United States and not quite a thousand of them in St. Louis a hundred years ago, they were certainly the most important people in the world then. Even then the world suspected it. It was almost convinced that they could "take care of themselves" and build up their country. There is no doubt of it left when, with over 80,000,000 people in the United States, St. Louis in one year of its twentieth century growth has spent over \$20,000,000 for new buildings. This is several millions in cash more than the total amount of cash in the United States in 1809.

In the St. Louis of 1809 the visitor by walking up one street and down another could see every house in the town in less than an hour. It would be a strange world to return to, but some might still be charmed with it. There was no roar and no rattle in it or in a thousand miles of it. There might have been so many as half a dozen coaches or family carriages of the kind George Washington used to

ride in, but they were used only on state occasions. The two wheeled charette, or French cart, drawn by a single Canadian pony, satisfied the speed mania in business during the week and sufficed for most people's pleasure on holidays. The very first of the first colonial families of the town used one of these same carts while it was in process of arriving. It had acquired a carriage in 1809 without becoming ashamed of the cart or of the neighbors who still sat in it, with the blouse of the driver worn over his trousers—if he wore trousers in 1809.

### Wore Breeches, Not Trousers.

In that year gentlemen of the best breeding and family still thought trousers undignified. They wore breeches, not "pants." The breeches still had silver buckles at the knees, and the shoes had silver buckles. There were still old school gentlemen of great dignity who wore their dress swords when they promenaded in public. Gentlemen of the Jeffersonian school followed the "Jacobin" fashion of wearing trousers with legs long enough to fall over their shoe tops, and the fashion was gaining fast. It was supposed in some mysterious way to stand for liberty, fraternity and equality, and some Federalist gentlemen of the old school held out in their knee breeches against it as long as possible on that account. But they were not too haughty to stop on the corner and beg the latest news from some one who had become prominent by getting a letter three weeks old from Philadelphia or New York. The man who knew the latest national politics was a prominent man even if it had been a month coming by mail from Philadelphia. They thought two weeks long enough to wait for a mail, but if they had to wait a month they enjoyed the news all the more when it came.

### Not Much Excitement Then.

With no paved streets, no water-works, no street lights, no steam whistles, no phonographs, no living picture shows and nothing modern to excite it during the day, the town snuffed out its tallow candles soon after dark and went to sleep. It seldom grew as much excited about anything whatever as it now does every day on Broadway during the baseball season when the score is being bulletined. The greatest business excitement was seen when some one caught the noise of songs and shouting as a fleet of keel boats and canoes returned from the Missouri or the Arkansas after six months or more of trading. The rush for the river front then might have suggested the modern interest in a baseball score, but there was nothing else approaching it.

## MEN TO BE GAY BIRDS

Masculine Raiment Will Resemble Lilies of the Field.

### BRIGHT COLORS THE FASHION

With Reversions to Old and Elaborate Styles, Men Will Be Able to Rival Women In Dress Display—Back to the Early Victorian Era.

If the leaders of men's fashions are to be believed there promises to come soon the most bizarre season in masculine raiment which the history of fashion has known since men laid aside knee breeches, satin waistcoats and lace jabots. Men are going in for colors anything but sober and clothing cuts anything but conventional.

No less a personage than Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City bank of New York, led the rebellion against conventionality in purple and fine linen, and this long before nature began to turn leaves gay colors and suggest that rich red and brown ties are good to the eye.

When the Long Beach season was at its height Mr. Vanderlip appeared at the Nassau hotel wearing evening clothes of pure white serge. Men in black dinner coats or blue serge with white fannel trousers sat up to take notice, but women followed after in admiration the full length of Long Beach's "peacock alley."

### All In White.

The trousers were the regulation dress cut, and the waistcoat followed the usual V shaped lines. The front of the coat followed conventional lines, but the back was quite short and pointed. White silk facings were used on lapels and collar, and white linen, a white silk bow tie and soft white leather shoes completed the makeup.

Comfort cannot account for the striking design of the new evening clothes which Caruso, the tenor, is wearing. These are made of royal purple broadcloth and cut upon conventional lines, with the silk braid stripe down the trousers legs. The coat is cut a trifle smaller in the front, the better to display a startling waistcoat of old fashioned brocade in flower patterns. With this Caruso wears a silk tie.

Certain Victorian tendencies are shown in the fall fashions for men. Waistcoats of gayest patterns and richest fabrics are being offered at all the smart shops where apparel for men is sold. Many of the new cravats are also large butterfly effects, but the band around the neck is not quite so

wide as in the Victorian period. The seal or eyeglass hung on a ribbon is becoming quite a familiar adjunct of masculine dress, especially among the older beaux.

### Striking Color Combinations.

But perhaps it is more in color combination than in fabric or cut that the masculine taste now runs to striking effects. Hosiery and cravats must match to a nicety, in vivid blue, green and crimson, to say nothing of half a dozen striking shades varying from violet to deep purple. Sometimes the socks are plain weave, in color matching the silk tie. Again, the tie will be a solid color and the socks will show a paler shade of the same color, with a small figure or stripe matching the tie. A third combination shows a stripe, green and black or brown and green, so fine that both tie and hosiery look like old fashioned changeable silks of the Victorian age.

New materials for waistcoats are gorgeous in the extreme, and the once sedate figure of conventional design is giving place to broad stripes, interlacing rings and even flowers, a bright figure on a neutral ground.

Jewelry now matches the prevailing tone in neckwear, hosiery, suit or shirt. Often all features of the wardrobe correspond in color. A very popular color combination is dull olive green with an almost invisible amethyst stripe in the fabric, lavender striped shirt and tie, socks matching the cuff links and amethyst scarfpin.

### DOWRIES FOR UNIONISTS.

National Women's Trade Union League to Help Its Members.

No longer need young women be deterred from joining trades unions by the excuse that they are "about to be married." The adoption of a system of granting "marriage dowries" to members of women's unions has been decided upon by the biennial convention of the National Women's Trade Union league, held in Chicago.

The plan, which was adopted to induce women to join unions of their craft, provides that when any member of the organization marries she shall be presented with a dowry, the amount to be conditional on the number of years she has been a member.

For the benefit of spinsters and those who for reasons of their own may choose to remain single an amendment was added to the plan providing for the payment of "vacation dowries" to them in lieu of the "marriage dowries" they would have received in the event they had entered the state of conjugal bliss.

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